purpose at an estimated investment of Rs. 10,000 crore, which would also help in accelerating oil production from these fields.

(ii) to increase exploration efforts through the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP). Under the three rounds of NELP, Production Sharing Contracts (PCSs) have been signed for 70 blocks.

(iii) to explore in new areas, especially in deep water and difficult frontier areas, as also explore in the deeper layers of the producing fields.

(iv) to develop faster the newly discovered fields and to step up the use of new technologies for seismic surveys, work over, stimulation operations, drilling of wells etc. in producing areas.

Irregularities in the functioning of Petrol Pumps

†2107. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any irregularities have been found in the functioning of the petrol pumps situated in Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat during the last three years;

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof; and

(c) whether the petrol pump owners have been punished for these irregularities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of malpractices/irregularities detected at Retail Outlets during the last three years in the State of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat are as follows:—

State	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
Rajasthan	119	147	68
Uttar Pradesh	110	112	166
Haryana	35	36	40
Madhya Pradesh	73	34	55
Gujarat	76	84	65

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) Action against Petrol Pumps found guilty of malpractices/ irregularities is taken by the oil companies under the provisions of Marketing Discipline Guidelines and/or Dealership Agreement.

Dealerships for Petroleum Products

2108. PROF. M. M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of criteria/norms fixed by Government for opening petrol/diesel and LPG dealership in the country;

(b) the details of petrol/diesel and LPG dealership set up during the Ninth Plan in the country, State-wise; and

(c) the details of these dealership proposed to be set up in the different parts of the country during the Tenth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (c) After dismantling of the Administered Pricing Mechanism in the petroleum sector with effect from 1.4.2002, the oil marketing companies in the public sector have freedom to frame their own marketing plans for setting up of retail outlet dealerships/LPG distributorships at various locations in the country, provided that the locations meet certain norms like commercial viability and non-encroachment of the existing retail outlets. There is no co-relation between the Five Year Plans and the marketing plans of the oil companies.

Domestic Production of crude oil

2109. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the share of imports of crude oil *vis-a-vis* the total production thereof at the end of the Seventh, Eighth and Ninth five Year Plans;

(b) the details of measures taken by Government to increase